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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 26, 2011

Official Dedication of the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. National Memorial

Representative Barbara W. Ballard (KS), President of the National Black Caucus of State Legislators (NBCSL) issues the following statement regarding the official dedication of the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. National Memorial:

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., was an extraordinary leader, who fought courageously for justice and equality. In recognition of his vision and humanitarian work, he received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964. At the age of thirty-five, he was the youngest person to have received this honor. It is fitting that the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. National Memorial is the first on the National Mall to acknowledge an individual who held no public office. Located between the Lincoln and Jefferson Memorials, Dr. King's memorial is a tribute to his life and legacy as well as his contributions to the nation.

This memorial will serve as a reminder of the past struggles America has endured and serve as an inspiration to fulfill his dream of justice and equality for all. The National Black Caucus of State Legislators has been committed to continuing his efforts for the past thirty-five years.

Dr. King's Memorial opened to the public on Monday, August 22, 2011, and the official dedication will be on Sunday, August 28, 2011. This corresponds to the 48th anniversary of the March on Washington, where he delivered the historic "I Have a Dream" speech.

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